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Message Text

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FOR MAGEE FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. DON HASFURTHER AT THE US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOLD US MARCH 8 THAT COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR GOSPODINOV TALKED WITH WILLIAM MAY IN LATE FEBRUARY ABOUT PLANS FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. GOSPODINOV SAID ONLY THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN SOFIA IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. HE COULD NOT PROVIDE EXACT DATE. HE ASKED MAY TO PROVIDE THE NAMES OF THE US FIRMS THAT WILL PARTICIPATE AND A PROPOSED AGENDA.

2. ACCORDING TO HASFURTHER, MAY WAS A LITTLE IRKED BY GOSPODINOV. MAY BELIEVES, AND HASFURTHER AGREES, THAT BULGARIA AS THE HOST COUNTRY SHOULD PROVIDE SPECIFIC DATES AND PROPOSE AN AGENDA BEFORE IT CAN EXPECT TO RE-
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CEIVE A LIST OF US PARTICIPANTS.

3. HASFURTHER SAID THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO INTEREST US FIRMS IN PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNCIL AND THAT DIFFICULTY IS COMPOUNDED BY THE APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST ON THE BULGARIAN SIDE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE EMBASSY WOULD PROMPT THE BULGARIANS TO SHOW SOME ENTHUSIASM FOR THE COUN-

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CIL BY OFFERING SOME DATES AND AN AGENDA. VANCE

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